

**Annual Town Meeting - May 8, 2023
Housing-Related Warrant Articles**

Article 31 - Fund Affordable Housing Trust Fund

Article 32 - Additional Funding for Affordable Housing Trust Fund

Article 60 - Special Legislation for the AHTF to Amend the Orleans Affordable Housing Trust Fund Bylaw Charter 104 to Include Attainable Housing

Article 62 - Resolution in Support of Special Legislation for Year-Round Housing Occupancy Deed Restriction

Article 63 - Amend Zoning Bylaws Section 164-22: Minimum Lot Size in Business Districts

Article 64 - Amend Zoning Bylaws Section 164-22: Accessory Dwellings on Panhandle Lots

**Finance Committee Unanimous Votes 8-0-0 on Articles 31, 32, 63 and 64
Articles 60 and 62 - "No Significant Fiscal Implication" (at this stage)**

On Behalf of the Finance Committee: Constance Kremer

Many of you understand that the cost of housing on Cape Cod skyrocketed during the COVID pandemic, putting an additional strain on our region where year-round and seasonal housing was already becoming harder to come by for many.

Local restaurants and other businesses which we want and need have been strategically increasing their real estate holdings to include near by hotels and houses for their seasonal workers, Cape wide.

The scarcity of housing has forced some residents of our town to rent subpar rentals that left safety an afterthought. It has kept our most vulnerable departments, like the Fire Station and the Department of Water, with unfilled positions for months on end and has forced our once robust year round business community, to shorten their seasons and their business hours.

Since 2018, Orleans has made a real effort to create and fund the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. This trust fund was created to purchase property, pay for project pre-development and both the Affordable Housing Trust Board and the Affordable Housing Committee work to bring outside investment for Affordable Housing to Orleans, like that of the Penrose Project and the 107 Main Street Property.

With 8 articles on the warrant this evening, I think we can say that Housing is the new Wastewater. Beginning with article #15, which the Finance Committee voted unanimously to support and was voted in by you here tonight, and includes articles 31, 32, 60, 62, 63 and 64. Article 56 will be discussed latter this evening by my colleague. The first four articles look to convey additional funding to this trust fund, expand duties of the Trust to create mixed income housing, which in turn gives support to our town's workforce, individuals and families, with incomes in what is now called the missing middle.

The last two articles, 63 +64, specifically convey zoning changes to be made in our business districts (69 parcels exist in Orleans) that would allow convenient downtown living for those who are looking to downsize and remain in Orleans and expand Accessory Dwelling Units.

We understand that by conveying these funds and making these changes, we are supporting the fiscal health of our community, which in turn supports the social fiber of our community. By supporting these articles we can provide our community with housing stability and growth for years to come.

Thank you.